THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A report about the roof falling has been obtained now from DDA.

(c) and (d) It is not correct that the life span of the colony is only 40 years. The buildings are permanent in nature and should last for many years more with proper maintenance. As the life of the buildings lasts for 80—100 years, to bestow ownership right to occupants was a conscious decision. The lavoratory block had fallen on account of wilful damaged by certain anti social elements.

(e) and (f) The Officers of the DDA (Slum Wing) have not given any right to the occupants of slum tenements to make illegal constructions on footpaths adjoining their tenements. The occupants make such illegal construction on their own. The staff of Slum Wing of DDA has been bringing to the notice of the Police such illegal constructions on open space adjoining tenements. Any attempt to remove such illegal constructions by DDA Staff is resisted by the public and their representatives.

Compensation for the land acquired for Central Government Colony in Bihar

2169. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any compensation has been given to the persons whose agricultural land was acquired at the time of constructing Central Government Colony in Bihar in 1973;

(b) if so, when and at what rate and the amount of compensation paid so far;

(c) if answer to the part (a) above be in the negative the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of persons whose land was acquired and who have been provided employment and the number who have not been provided employment so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Thakkar Natrajan Commission

2170. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought the views of Press Council of India on the observations of Justices Thakkar Natrajan Commission;

(b) if so, on what issue the views of Press Council of India have been sought;

(c) whether the Thakkar Natrajan Commission have made any request to Government for lying down a code of Ethics for the Press;

(d) if so, whether the Press Council of India has given its views to Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (e) The Government had brought to the notice of the Press Council the observations of the Justices Thakkar-Natrajan Commission on the role of media. It was inter-alia stated by the Commission that the time is more than ripe for the media to evolve a code of conduct for itself, in consultation with its conscience, keeping in mind the larger

perspective of national interest, realizing the need for self-discipline. Since the Press Council of India is charged with the responsibility to build up a code of conduct for newspapers, news agencies and Journalists in accordance with the high professional ethics, the matter was referred to the Press Council.

The Press Council is not in favour of laying down a code of conduct for the Press, but feels that such a code should be built up on a case-to-case basis.

Gap between demand and supply of aluminium

2171. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the demand for aluminium met indigenously and the extent of gap between the demand and supply of aluminium at the end of 1987;

(b) The annual imports of the aluminium in terms of quantity and value (in foreign exchange) and the percentage of demand met with the imports and its impact on the domestic prices of aluminium; and

(c) the quantity (with value) of aluminium proposed to be imported during the current year and what steps have been taken by Government to augment the indigenous production of aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) During the year 1987-88 against a consumption of about 350,000 tonnes of aluminium, the sale of aluminium by primary producers was about 289,000 tonnes, which constituted 82 per cent of the consumption, and the balance quantity of about 61,000 tonnes constituting 18 per cent was met through imports by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC) including spill over stocks of about 6000 tonnes from the previous year. A quantity of 55,000 tonnes of aluminium valued at Rs. 130 crores approximately was imported by MMTC during 1987-88.

The price of aluminium in the international market has been rising steadily which has had no adverse impact on the domestic prices of primary aluminium metal which are statutorily fixed under the Aluminium Control Order.

(c) About 10,000 tonnes of aluminium is expected to be imported during the current year valued at about Rs. 30 crores. Government have recently brought import of aluminium including rods under Open General Licence with effect from 26-7-1988. Indigenous production of aluminium is also increasing with the progressive commissioning of the Smelter of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).

Nicotine an effective pesticides

2172. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the findings of the Gujarat Agriculture University in respect of use of nicotine as an effective pesticides and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether nicotine products developed as above are available to farmers and public health authorities and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir. Nicotine sulphate is effective against certain group of soft bodied insects according to the research investigations conducted at the Gujarat Agricultural University and several other institutions.